THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Wednesday, the 24th August 1955.

The House met in the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at three of the clock, Mr. Chairman (THE HON. DR. P. V. CHERIAN) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Location of Government offices of Chingleput district in the City of Madras

* 351 *Q.*—SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state the names of Government offices of the Chingleput district that are located in the City of Madras and the steps afoot to locate them within Chingleput district?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM (on behalf of the Hon. the Chief Minister) :—" A statement [a] containing the information is placed on the table of the House."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM :—" Sir, will the Hon. Minister kindly enlighten us whether there is any proposal to shift the head-quarters of the Chingleput district to a suitable place within the district and, if so, at what stage the matter is? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Sir, so far as I am aware, there is at present no such proposal."

SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN :—" Sir, is it not a fact that Saidapet is more centrally located in the Chingleput district and is convenient to people from both ends? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" That is perhaps so, Sir."

SRI V. CHAKKARAI CHETTY :—" Sir, why was it considered necessary to locate the Government offices of the Chingleput district in the City of Madras? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Sir, it is not as if the Chingleput offices were located within the City, but portions of the district where the offices had been located have been annexed to the Madras City."

Boundary issue between Madras and Andhra States

* 352 *Q.*—SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state the steps taken to settle the boundary issue between the Madras and Andhra States, and with what result?

[a] Printed as Appendix I on pages 449–450 infra.

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THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM (on behalf of the Hon. the Chief Minister) :—" The Superintendent of Census Operations appointed by the Government of India for collecting the village-wise language figures in respect of the disputed taluks in either State by resorting to the 1951 Census slips has submitted the relevant particulars and maps to the two State Governments. With a view to settle the boundary issue amicably this Government have addressed the Chief Minister of Andhra State suggesting that a conference of the representative Ministers of the two Governments may be held to discuss matters so as to arrive at some agreed conclusions. This suggestion is being considered by the Government of Andhra."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM :—" Sir, may I presume that representations submitted by the villagers in the border areas will be duly considered with reference to the principles laid down by the Government for inclusion of the predominantly Tamil villages in the Madras State? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Yes, Sir, whatever representations have been received by the Government in this matter are being duly considered."

SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR :—" Sir, is there any likelihood of a Boundary Commission being appointed as was originally mentioned by the Government of India? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Sir, unless it is inevitable, it is considered that these matters could be settled by mutual discussion rather than by initially appointing a Boundary Commission."

SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR :—" Sir, is there any likelihood of things being settled peacefully without any difficulty? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Yes, Sir. The Government do hope that as a result of discussions between the representatives of the two Governments, this matter could be amicably settled."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM :—" Sir, with reference to the question raised by the hon. Member Sri K. Balasubramanya Ayyar, may I know whether it is not a fact that even the leaders of the Tamil Nad North Boundary Commission at a public meeting held last night agreed to the course adopted by the State Government and also congratulated the present Ministry on the conciliatory steps taken by them in this matter? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" I do not know, Sir, what certain leaders have done or have been doing."

SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN :—" Sir, is it not a fact that the Hon. the Chief Minister along with the Hon. the Finance Minister is going to meet the Andhra Ministers and can we hope that an amicable settlement will be reached in the matter? "

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THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :— "That is possible, Sir."

Compulsory learning of Hindi by the Madras officials serving under the Government of India

* 353 Q.—SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Madras Government have been consulted by the Government of Indlia in regard to compulsory learning of Hindi by the Madras officials serving under the Government of India;

(b) if so, whether it applies to the officials who are to be appointed in future, or also to existing officials; and

(c) whether the Government will be pleased to place the correspondence if any on the table of the House?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM (on behalf of the Hon. the Chief Minister) :—" (a) This Government are not aware of any such proposal.

" (b) & (c) Do not arise."

SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN :—" Sir, is the Hon. Minister aware of a report, which appeared prominently in the Press, that officials serving in the Government of India are compulsorily learning the Hindi language? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Sir, I am not aware of any such report. But I may tell the hon. Member that there is no such proposal that the Madras officials serving under the Government of India should be compulsorily made to learn Hindi."

Vanniakula Kshatriyas in public services

* 354 Q.—SRI A. GAJAPATHY NAYAGAR : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state the percentage of the Vanniakula Kshatriyas in the public services in relation to their population?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM (on behalf of the Hon. the Chief Minister) :—" The population strength of the Vanniakula Kshatriyas in this State is not given separately in the 1951 Census Report. Information as to their number in the public services is not readily available and collection of the information will involve much time and labour. Even if this information is collected it will not be possible to give the percentage of their representation in the services in relation to their population as the population strength is not known."

SRI A. GAJAPATHY NAYAGAR :—" Sir, is there even one District Collector among the Vanniakula Kshatriyas? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" I do not know about that, Sir. The hon. Member may give the information."